



Customer No.: 26308

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: West et al. Docket No.: 9222.17412-CIP 1
Serial No.: 10/017,685 Examiner: L. Thanh
Filed: 14 December 2001 Group Art Unit: 3763
Title: Systems and Methods Employing a Bite Block Insert for Positioning and Stabilizing External Instruments Deployed in the Body

AMENDMENT B
SUBMITTED WITH A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed April 27, 2004, which was designated a Final Action. A Request for Continued Examination has been filed to respond to the Office Action and advance prosecution.

An automatic 3-month extension of time to respond, up to and including 27 October 2004, is respectfully requested. The requisite fee accompanies this Amendment.

*RECEIVED
OCT 28 2004
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